

**REMARKS**

The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment states that Claim 22 is missing from the original Preliminary Amendment. Please note that statement is incorrect. Our copy of the Preliminary Amendment shows Claim 22 as included.

**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

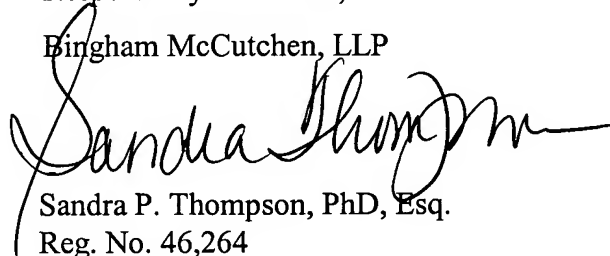
Claims 21-35 are pending in this application, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all of the claims in light of the arguments presented and allow all current and pending claims.

Dated: September 16, 2004

By:

Respectfully submitted,

Bingham McCutchen, LLP



Sandra P. Thompson, PhD, Esq.

Reg. No. 46,264

E-mail: sandra.thompson@bingham.com

Direct Line: 714-830-0622

Customer No. 23639

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT(S):

Plaza Tower  
600 Anton Boulevard, 18th Floor  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
Tel: (714) 830-0622  
Fax: (714) 830-0722